Part of this essay is written – please add to it using the instructions provided. Information that needs to be added and sources that are required are in red font – please find appropriate articles and academic information.

There are also quotes that I have listed below that will need to be incorporated into the essay as data that I have gather during fieldwork – please incorporate them accordingly… they are below in red in the ‘livelihoods approach’ section.

This essay is about sustainable development – the point that I want to make is that Martu people are aware and always have been aware of sustainability – you will find lots of information on this – their hunting practices, and their burning practices help to maintain the environment.

It is also about the challenges that they face in a modern world and about the practical things that can make the situation better for them.

The text in black is fine to leave as it is – but please add additional data where required.

Here are only a few sources you will need – please find more academic sources

* <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5ba1d67012b13ff5f6e56f11/t/6135befacfb2f9010adeeac1/1630912257083/KJ+evaluation+report+1+-+KJ%27s+performance+against+Martu+outcomes_FINAL.pdf>
* https://www.soas.ac.uk/cedep-demos/000\_P528\_RF\_K3736-Demo/unit1/page\_22.htm
* <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/55eef123e4b087ad372e72cf/t/5630ec81e4b0f64b5f80e3db/1446046849637/CoddingSAR.pdf>
* Ian Scoones (2009) Livelihoods perspectives and rural development, The Journal of Peasant Studies, 36:1, 171-196,DOI: [10.1080/03066150902820503](https://doi.org/10.1080/03066150902820503)
* <https://www.jstor.org/stable/25470536>
* <https://research-repository.uwa.edu.au/en/publications/to-hunt-and-to-hold-martu-aboriginal-peoples-uses-and-knowledge-o>
* <https://www.kj.org.au/meet-the-martu>
* <https://www.natureaustralia.org.au/what-we-do/our-priorities/land-and-freshwater/land-freshwater-stories/martu-living-deserts/>
* <http://www.wdlac.com.au/martu/>
* <https://www.kj.org.au/news/how-aboriginal-hunting-and-cool-burns-prevent-australian-wildfires>
* <https://philosophy.dept.shef.ac.uk/culture&mind/people/scelzab/>
* <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/full/10.1086/685763>
* <https://www.publish.csiro.au/rj/pdf/RJ15047>

Sustainable Livelihoods of Martu People

Intro

This written account is the product of an ethnographic research encounter with the Martu Aborigines from the Great Sandy Desert in Western Australia. This study aims to contextualise the livelihoods of Martu men and women by contrasting anecdotal field data gathered in interviews during archaeological and ethnographic heritage surveys, with academic discourse on development and sustainability. Additionally, I will consider the environmental, social, cultural, and political contexts that produce vulnerable situations for Martu men and women; and the structures and processes affecting the livelihoods of this community. Lastly, this report will comment on strategies and outcomes that may improve sustainability for the Martu people. At its core, this research aims to argue for the significance of collaborative research methods that give agency and a voice to the participants involved in the study. Historically, Indigenous peoples globally have been the source and subject of extensive academic inquiry. This is no different in Australia, where the Aboriginal communities have lived through generations of theoretical poking and prodding for the sake of imperial agendas, then for Western ‘science’. Only recently have researchers embraced collaborative research methods that give voice and agency to the people involved in the study.

The Martu people are one of the last communities in the Western Desert to have contact with colonisers, with many leaving the desert and moving into nearby stations and then towns.

* Find information about the Martu Aborigines
* Find information on the sustainable hunting practices of Martu people.
* Find information about the geographic location where Martu people are from.
* Find information about the contemporary issues that Martu people face.

Development Theory

Development theory is highly contested and debated among theorists and academics. The main theoretical approaches to development include modernisation, dependency, neo-liberalism, and post-structuralism.

(Elaborate on each) explain what each of these theories is about and how they conceptualise development theory.

Scoones (2009) Find article by Scoones (2009) which engages with livelihoods approach.

In locating this study within the development discourse…

Methods

Earlier this year I gained employment with a cultural heritage management company that allowed me the opportunity to travel around WA and work with regional communities within the scope of environmental and cultural heritage management. After working with the Martu people in several contexts and projects, my notebook was full of quotes and information gathered during interviews, ethnographic consultations, walking heritage consultations, and archaeological surveys. It is important to mention that ethical considerations were of utmost importance; the names of individuals quoted in this study have been given pseudonyms to protect their identities and permission was obtained for the inclusion of their quotes for this written assessment.

This report utilises qualitative ethnographic methods to gather evidence. Add reference about ethnographic research methodologies.

This research utilises participant observation and semi-structured interviewing as its main source of data. Additionally, it aims to contextualise this information within the academic discourse on sustainable development and sustainable livelihoods – which is at times contentious.

Qualitative methods allow social scientists deeper insight into the lives and minds of their research subjects.

Add additional information about ethnographic methods in social science

Livelihoods Approach

**Vulnerability Context and Assets**: Consider the context and characteristics that produce vulnerability. This might be environmental, social, economic, cultural, political.

Find information about the Martu Aborigines and environmental, social, economic, cultural and political contexts that affect the community.

**Quotes from fieldwork that needs to be incorporated into the paragraphs is:**

* “no wonder my old people used to be fit, walking around with eight packs and shit… before the white man came and brought alcohol and sugar” (Robert, personal communication, 2022)
* “my doctor, small Indian man asked me to bring him my bush-medicine plant so he could take to India and I told him… no way, this medicine is for us, we try to keep it for us. It’s not for people to go and take it away to make money off of it” (Wayne, personal communication, 2022)
* “The women used to forage and collect bush medicines, and the men would hunt” (Carmen, Personal communication, 2022)
* “It’s important for us to keep our language and our customs alive for the next generation, so they can feel connected to their culture” (Wayne, Personal Communication, 2022)
* “cultural burning is a big part of Martu culture, we know what to burn and when to make sure the land is

**Structures and Processes**: Building on the context of the livelihoods what are the key structures and processes affecting the livelihood community

* Talk about the Australian government and ILUAs that affect land access for Aboriginal people in Western Australia.
* Talk about how the Native Title affects Martu people in Australia

**Strategies and Outcomes**: Consider pragmatic and structural recommendations and changes that might help improve sustainability (for example, security, wellbeing, resilience, development, empowerment…) for the livelihood community

* Elaborate on collaborative approaches to research
* Elaborate on how wellbeing, resilience and empowerment is based on autonomy and human rights for Martu people.

Conclusion

Sum up the main points in the essay

Re-state claims made about sustainable development

Explain that Martu communities already have sustainable practices.

(each of these points in red will need a paragraph or more that needs to be elaborated on)